

Amendments to the Claims/Listing of Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1-9. (Canceled)

10. (Previously presented) A eukaryotic expression vector comprising a recombinant nucleic acid sequence encoding thiaminase I from *N. gruberi*, said recombinant nucleic acid sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO:3.

11-32. (Canceled)

33. (Previously presented) A vector comprising a recombinant nucleic acid sequence encoding thiaminase I from *N. gruberi*, said recombinant nucleic acid sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO:3.

34. (Previously presented) A purified, enriched, or isolated nucleic acid sequence, wherein said nucleic acid sequence is at least 90% identical to a portion at least 200 nucleotides in length of the *N. gruberi* thiaminase sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO:3.

35. (Previously presented) The nucleic acid sequence of claim 34, wherein said nucleic acid sequence comprises a sequence at least 95% identical to the sequence of SEQ ID NO:3.

36. (Currently amended) **An isolated** bacterium transfected with a vector, said bacterium selected from the group consisting of avirulent *C. sporogenes*, avirulent *C. beijerinckii*, and attenuated, non-pathogenic *S. typhimurium*[[i.]], said vector comprising a recombinant nucleic acid sequence encoding thiaminase I from *N. gruberi* as set forth in SEQ ID NO:3, and said recombinant nucleic acid sequence operably linked to a promoter.

37. (Previously presented) The bacterium of claim 36, wherein said bacterium is avirulent *C. sporogenes*.

38. (Previously presented) The bacterium of claim 36, wherein said bacterium is avirulent *C. beijerinckii*.

39. (Previously presented) The bacterium of claim 36, wherein said bacterium attenuated, non-pathogenic *S. typhimurium*.

40. (New) The nucleic acid sequence of claim 34, wherein said nucleic acid sequence encodes a protein having thiaminase activity.